Abstract

A method for monitoring the effect of cancer therapies with growth factor inhibitors and intracellular signal transduction modulators ("growth factor cancer drugs"), which act by interfering with overexpression of normal or mutated forms of growth factor receptors, the overproduction of growth factors or defects in the signalling cascade downstream the activated growth factor receptors. The method is based on measuring telomerase activity in a sample from an individual diagnosed for cancer and treated with the growth factor cancer drug and correlating a reduction of telomerase activity with a favorable therapeutic intervention with the drug.